

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 EA-06 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-10 NEA-10 NSAE-00

OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 STR-04

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TO SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE 7456

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, OECD

SUBJECT: HEADS OF DELEGATION DISCUSSION OF XCSS AND  
HIGH-LEVEL GROUP ON COMMODITIES (HLGC)

1. AT HEADS OF DELEGATION MEETING JUNE 9 SECGEN NOTED THAT AFTERNOON OF JUNE 30 THROUGH JULY 1 HAD EMERGED AS EARLIEST FEASIBLE DATE FOR FIRST MEETING OF HLGC. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER DELAY IN FIRST MEETING, NOTING THAT SECRETARIAT CONSIDERED IT ESSENTIAL THAT GROUP MEET TWICE BEFORE SUBMITTING INTERIM REPORT TO XCSS BY END OF JULY. IN ORDER TO INSURE THAT HLGC IS ABLE TO LAUNCH ITS SUBSTANTIVE WORK IMMEDIATELY ON JUNE 30, SECGEN PROPOSED THAT XCSS ON JUNE 11 (A) PROVIDE CLEAR GUIDANCE TO HLGC ON WHAT IS EXPECTED IN REPORT TO BE SUBMITTED BY THE END OF JULY, FOCUSING ON PRIORITY AREAS WITHIN BROAD MANDATE CONTAINED IN JOLLES STATEMENT AT LAST XCSS AND MINISTERIAL DISCUSSIONS, AND (B) CONSIDER QUESTIONS OF TIME-TABLE, INCLUDING WHETHER JULY MEETING OF XCSS MIGHT BE DELAYED TO ALLOW HLGC TO MEET TWICE BEFOREHAND.

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2. DUE TO PROBLEMS VOICED BY SOME SMALLER DELEGATIONS,

NO FIRM DECISION WAS TAKEN ON JUNE 30-JULY 1 DATES.  
SECRETARIAT MADE CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT NO ALTERNATIVES  
APPEARED FEASIBLE AND THAT FIRM DECISION WOULD BE MADE  
BY MID-WEEK BASED ON CONVENIENCE OF MAJORITY OF DELEGA-  
TIONS.

3. ON HLGC CHAIRMANSHIP, SECRETARIAT TELLS US ABOUT  
THREE-QUARTERS OF THE DELEGATIONS CONTACTED FAVOR  
PRESTON (UK) AND ONLY THE CANADIANS CLEARLY OPPOSED.  
SECRETARIAT THINKS QUESTION WILL BE DIFFICULT TO RESOLVE  
AMICABLY IF A NEW CANDIDATE IS PUT FORWARD LATER THAN  
THIS WEEK'S XCSS MEETING AND CORRIDOR DISCUSSIONS THEN.

4. SECRETARIAT DOCUMENTATION WILL BE LIMITED TO A SHORT  
ANNOTATED AGENDA, NOT YET WRITTEN. WE UNDERSTAND UK  
WILL NEXT WEEK DISTRIBUTE PAPER GIVING ITS IDEAS ON WHAT  
HLGC SHOULD DO.  
KATZ

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